

Message Text

SECRET

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STADIS/////////////////////////////////
COMM CTR DELIVER ONE COPY ONLY TO ASST SEC HARTMAN 1/27

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XG, US

SUBJECT:EUR EVENTS JANUARY 26

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM LOWENSTEIN

1, SPAIN.

THE SITUATION IN MADRID REMAINS TENSE IN THE WAKE OF
RECENT TERRORIST ACTIONS BUT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN
BOLSTERED BY WIDESPREAD CONDEMNATION OF EXTREMIST VIOLENCE
BY ALL SIGNIFICANT PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PCE. THE
SECRETARY WILL JOIN THE MEETING TOMORROW WHEN OSORIO SEES
THE DEPUTY SECRETARY.

2. CZECHOSLOVAK CHARTER 77.

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THE DISSIDENT SIGNERS OF THE MANIFESTO AND THE REGIME
CONTINUE TO DO BATTLE. THE GOC CONTINUES TO ATTEMPT TO
DISCREDIT CHARTER 77 BY LINKING IT TO WESTERN "ESPIONAGE,"
BY PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THE SIGNERS, AND MOST RECENTLY BY
RELATIVELY MUTED PUBLIC ATTACKS BY HUSAK AND PRESIDUM
MEMBER INDRA. FOUR DISSIDENTS REMAIN UNDER DETENTION,

AND WE DO NOT NOW KNOW WHETHER THERE WILL BE POLITICAL TRIALS. MANY SIGNERS HAVE REPORTEDLY LOST THEIR JOBS, BUT FORMER FONMIN HAJEK, FORMER PARTY SECRETARY MLYNAR AND DRAMATIST KOHOUT CONTINUE TO PUBLISH ADDENDA TO THE CHARTER AND TO ATTACK POLICE HARASSMENT AND THE ARREST OF THEIR COLLEAGUES. AT THIS POINT, NEITHER THE REGIME NOR THE DISSIDENT GROUP APPEARS ABOUT TO BACK DOWN. NEGATIVE WESTERN REACTION, ESPECIALLY FROM EUROCOMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS, IS INCREASING. SOME 38 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN IN A LETTER TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR AND THE AFL-CIO IS ABOUT TO MAKE STATEMENT ON CHARTER 77. THE DEPARTMENT RELEASED A STATEMENT ON CHARTER 77 (THUS FAR THE ONLY OFFICIAL WESTERN REACTION OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE) TO THE PRESS ON JANUARY 26. (SEPTEL)

3. CYPRUS.

WE LEARNED LATE YESTERDAY THAT CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR TO THE UN ROSSIDES HAD ARRANGED TO PAY A BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON THE SECRETARY TODAY. THE MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY ROSSIDES A WEEK OR SO AGO ON THE BASIS OF HIS LONG-TERM ASSOCIATION WITH THE SECRETARY. WE WERE ABLE TO ARRANGE FOR DIMITRIOU ALSO TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING WHICH WAS UNEVENTFUL WITH ROSSIDES RECITING THE FAMILIAR GREEK-CYPRIOT LITANY.

4. CZECHOSLOVAK CLAIMS PROBLEM.

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JACK ARMITAGE SPOKE WITH GUS EDWARDS WHO REPORTED THAT DAVID SCOTT WILL BE IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 9 AND IS ASKING FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH SENATORS LONG AND GRAVEL TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOC ON THE CLAIMS QUESTION. WITH THE TURBULENT CZECHOSLOVAK SITUATION WE ARE PLANNING NO INITIATIVES BUT IT IS USEFUL TO HAVE THE DECKS CLEARED ESPECIALLY AS SCOTT IS BOWING OUT FROM THE CHAMBER COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP.

5. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PARIS MAYORALITY RACE.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF TODAY'S COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING IN PARIS, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT GISCARD HAS CHARGED PRIME MINISTER BARRE WITH FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT IMPASSE WITHIN THE GOVERNING COALITION OVER THE CANDIDACY FOR MAYOR OF PARIS. THIS MOVE PROBABLY REFLECTS GISCARD'S REALIZATION THAT HIS CURRENT CHOSEN CANDIDATE -- D'ORNANO -- CANNOT WIN IN A CONTEST

AGAINST CHIRAC. IN CHARGING BARRE TO NEGOTIATE A COMPROMISE GISCARD MAY BE TRYING TO PUT THE ONUS FOR DISUNITY. CLEARLY ON CHIRAC. GISCARD IS IN THE PROCESS, HOWEVER, OF LINKING HIS OWN PRESTIGE AND THAT OF HIS GOVERNMENT EVEN MORE CLOSELY TO THE OUTCOME OF THIS AFFAIR.

6. LODGE APPOINTMENT.

THE SECRETARY WILL MEET WITH AMBASSADOR LODGE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 29.

7. GREECE. GREEK MINISTER COUNDOURIOTIS CONVEYED TO US ALEXANDRAKIS' GRATITUDE FOR NELSON LEDSKY'S CALL YESTERDAY CLARIFYING PRESS REPORTS ABOUT THE NAMING OF A CYPRUS ENVOY AND FOR THE EARLIER CALL ABOUT THE TURKISH DCA. ALEXANDRAKIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY AND GRATEFUL FOR THIS INDICATION OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S AT-

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TITUDE TOWARD ITS FRIENDS.
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